



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/610,696	07/05/2000	Seong-jin Moon	1293.1072D2/MDS	4484

21171 7590 07/14/2004

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

TRAN, THAI Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2616

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2004

27

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/610,696

Applicant(s)

SRIVASTAVA ET AL.

Examiner

Thai Tran

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 June 2004.
2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-44 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-43 is/are rejected.
7) ☒ Claim(s) 44 is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/337,253.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 24.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2615

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on June 09, 2004 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11-43 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a

Art Unit: 2615

later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 11-12, 15-27, 39, and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aramaki et al (EP 0 833 337 A2) in view of Sonobe (U.S. Patent No. 5,404,520).

Regarding claim 11, Aramaki et al, as discussed in the last Office Action, discloses a method of recording and/or editing content on a data recording medium (Fig. 3), comprising:

recording an identification information of a manufacturer of a recording apparatus that recorded or modified the content of the recording medium different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification (updating the U-TOC disclosed in col. 1, lines 33-36 and the U-TOC comprises the recording time, manufacturers code, and the model code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55). However, Aramaki et al does not specifically disclose the newly added limitation a last address of manufacturer information for the recording and/or reproducing apparatus to identify the last address of the manufacturer information.

Sonobe teaches that a code representing a data end (called end of file or EOF) in file is written along with the file for identifying the end of the file. See col. 2, lines 7-28 and col. 10, lines 33-38.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the EOF as taught by Sonobe into Aramaki et al's

Art Unit: 2615

system in order to facilitate the recording/reproducing information on/from the recording medium.

Regarding claim 12, Aramaki et al also discloses the claimed recording a product identification code of the recording apparatus of the manufacturer that modified the content of the recording medium by performing recording/editing on the recording medium (the model code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55).

Claim 15 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 11 above.

Regarding claim 16, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording a product information code indicating a product model of the recording apparatus that modified the content of the recording (the model code disclosed I col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 17, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording an operation code indicating information on an operation performed by the recording apparatus other than reproduction of the content of the recording medium (manufacturers code and model code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 18, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the operation code information is compatible for a plurality of different manufacturers (manufacturers code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 19, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording a manufacturer information item specific to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus (programs disclosed in col. 8, lines 18-26), and a manufacture code to indicate the manufacturer of the manufacturer information item (manufacturers code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55).

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claim 20, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording a manufacturer information item specific to the manufacturer (programs disclosed in col. 8, lines 18-26), a manufacturer code to indicate the manufacturer of the recording apparatus of the manufacturer information item (manufacturers code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55), and a product code to indicate a product model of the recording apparatus of the manufacturer information item (model code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 21, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording time information indicating a time when the manufacturer information item is recorded on the recording medium (time disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 22, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording the manufacturer code and the product code at a beginning part of the manufacturer information item (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 23, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording a searching pointer indicating a starting address of the manufacturer information item (the addresses of U-TOCs disclosed in col. 11, lines 19-26).

Regarding claim 24, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed updating a number of total manufacturer information items recorded on the recording medium (the editing function disclosed in cols. 19-20).

Regarding claim 25, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed determining whether the number of total manufacturer information items exceeds a predetermined limit, and if so, deleting an oldest manufacturer information item stored on the recording medium (the editing function disclosed in cols. 19-20).

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claim 26, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording an address of manufacturer information which includes the manufacturer identification information and the product information code (the addresses of U-TOCs disclosed in col. 11, lines 19-26 and model code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 27, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed recording an last address of manufacturer information which includes the manufacturer identification information, the product information code, and the operation code (the addresses of U-TOCs disclosed in col. 11, lines 19-26, manufacturers code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55, and model code disclosed in col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 39, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last recorded or modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Claim 41 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 39 above.

5. Claims 13-14, 28-38, 40, and 42-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aramaki et al (EP 0 833 337 A2) in view of Sonobe (U.S. Patent No. 5,404,520) and further in view of Ohno et al ('366) as set forth in paragraph #6 of the last Final Office Action.

Regarding claim 13, the combination of Aramaki et al and Sonobe as discussed in claim 11 above discloses all the features of the instant invention except for providing verifying a coincidence of an identification code of a

Art Unit: 2615

manufacturer of a device which last modified the content of the recording medium and a manufacturer identification information of the recording/reproducing apparatus to determine whether manufacturer specific information of the recording/reproducing apparatus is effective, wherein the identification information of the manufacturer is different from the identification information prior to the recording or the modification.

Ohno et al teach a magnetic recording/reproducing apparatus having means for verifying a coincidence of an identification code of a manufacturer of a device which last modified the content of the recording medium and the manufacturer identification code of the recording/reproducing apparatus to determine whether manufacturer specific information of the recording/reproducing apparatus is effective (column 6, lines 18-31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the capabilities of searching of programs recorded on a magnetic tape, indexing of heading portion of the programs and displaying of teletext or closed caption and the like as taught by Ohno et al into Aramaki et al's system in order to facilitate the managing the information recorded in the recording medium without essentially incurring additional manufacturing cost of the apparatus.

Regarding claim 14, Ohno et al also discloses the claimed verifying the coincidence of an identification code of a product that modified the content of the recording medium and a product identification code of the recording/reproducing

Art Unit: 2615

apparatus to determine whether the manufacturer specific information of the recording/reproducing apparatus is effective (column 6, lines 18-31).

Claim 28 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 13 of this application above.

Regarding claim 29, Ohno et al discloses the claimed reading the content of the recording medium to determine whether the content is effective if the determination is that the read manufacturer identification information does not match that of the recording and reproducing apparatus, and reproducing the content read if the content read is determined to be effective (column 4, lines 42-65).

Regarding claim 30, Ohno et al discloses the claimed updating only manufacturer information item specific to the manufacturer of the recording and reproducing apparatus, and not updating other manufacturer information items recorded on the recording medium (column 3, line 37 to column 4, line 28).

Claim 31 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 13 of this application above.

Regarding claim 32, Ohno et al discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has a product information code indicating a product model of the apparatus that modified the content of the recording medium on the recording medium (column 3, line 37 to column 4, line 28), the reproduction method further comprising reading the product model (column 6, lines 18-31) and determining whether to read the content based upon the read product model (column 6, lines 18-31).

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claim 33, Ohno et al discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has an operation code indicating on an operation performed by the recording apparatus that last modified the content of the recording medium (column 3, line 37 to column 4, line 28), the reproduction method further comprising reading the operation code (column 6, lines 18-31) and determining how to modify the content based upon the read operation code (column 6, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 34, Ohno et al discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has a manufacturer information item specific to the manufacturer, and a manufacturer code to indicate the manufacturer of the manufacturer information item (column 3, line 37 to column 4, line 28), the reproduction method further comprising reading the manufacturer code (column 6, lines 18-31) and determining whether to read the manufacturer information item if the manufacturer code matches a code relating to the manufacturer of the reproducing apparatus (column 6, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 35, Ohno et al discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has a manufacturer information item specific to the manufacture, a manufacturer code to indicate the manufacturer of the recording apparatus of the manufacturer information item, and a product code to indicate a product model of the recording apparatus of the manufacturer information item (column 3, line 37 to column 4, line 28), the reproduction method further comprising reading the manufacturer code and the product code (column 6, lines 18-31) and determining whether to read the manufacturer information item if the

Art Unit: 2615

manufacturer code matches a code relating to the manufacturer of the reproducing apparatus and the product code matches a code relating to the product model of the reproducing apparatus (column 6, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 36, Ohno et al discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has time information indicating a time when the manufacturer information item is recorded on the recording medium (column 3, line 37 to column 4, line 28), the reproduction method further comprising reading the time information and processing the read time information (column 5, lines 20-31 and column 6, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 37, Ohno et al discloses the claimed wherein the recording medium has a search pointer indicating a starting address of the manufacturer information item (column 4, lines 42-65), the reproduction method further comprising reading the search pointer and then reading the manufacturer information item at the start address thereof (column 6, lines 18-31).

Regarding claim 38, Ohno et al discloses determining whether the read manufacturer identification code matches a code of a current reproducing apparatus relating to a manufacturer of the reproducing apparatus (column 6, lines 18-31); reading the content for reproduction if there is a match for reproduction of the content (column 6, lines 18-31); reading the content if there is not the match for analyzing the content (column 6, lines 18-31); and reproducing the content if there is the match or if the analysis indicates the content is reproducible by a current reproducing (column 6, lines 18-31).

Art Unit: 2615

Regarding claim 40, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last recorded or modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 42, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last recorded or modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Regarding claim 43, Aramaki et al discloses the claimed wherein the identification information corresponds to the manufacturer of the recording apparatus that last recorded or modified the content of the recording medium (col. 16, lines 47-55).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 44 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Information Disclosure Statement filed May 14, 2004

7. Most of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 14, 2004 were crossed-out because such references have been considered in previous Office Actions.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Tran whose telephone number is (703)

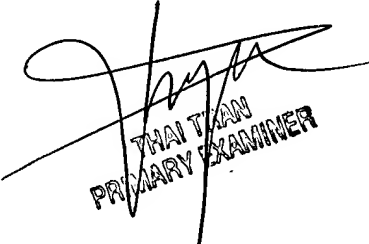
Art Unit: 2615

305-4725. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. to Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TTQ


THAI TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER